



## INVOLVING YOUTH AT THE ALL YOUTH-ONE SYSTEM CONFERENCE

### CONTENT CONFERENCE CALL NOTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2005 • 10:30-11:30A.M.

**Topic:** *New Ways to Work and YCi presented a content call on the topic of involving youth at the All Youth-One System Conference. The call featured information about activities and supports that will be available for youth and adults at the conference.*

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#### **Opportunities and Activities for Youth at the Conference**

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YCi is hosting several opportunities specifically to support and learn from youth at the conference. This conference call featured information about the following sessions:

- Youth Council Orientation - preconference session for youth,
- Youth perspectives session with Edward DeJesus and Steve Trippe,
- Closing plenary and the sharing of the youth perspective,

Also discussed were ideas around how to support young people before, during, and after the conference.

#### **Preconference Overview**

YCi will be hosting two concurrent special pre-conference sessions - one for youth and the other for team leaders. Both sessions will be held from 10:00 to 11:45 on Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. Following these sessions, we will bring both groups together for a buffet lunch and a brief network meeting. If you haven't done so already, please send us your registration forms for the preconference sessions, which are available by [clicking here](#).

#### **Youth Council Orientation Preconference Session**

Current or potential youth and young adult members of Youth Councils are invited to attend a special session with will feature:

- Orientation about Youth Councils, including some activities and tools for understanding WIA lingo and acronyms, facilitation, and working with adults and peers.
- We will also have a conversation with the participants, asking them what they feel they need to be supported in their role on Youth Councils. From this information, we plan to develop some tools for youth on Youth Councils to disseminate through YCi.

*Content Call Participant Suggestions for Youth Orientation::*

- Acronyms and WIA lingo would be helpful
- Young people need support in seeing the bigger picture overall of the functions of a Youth Council
- Overview of what a Youth Council is and WIA.

#### **Youth Perspective Session**

Youth and young adult conference participants are invited to attend a special session with Edward DeJesus and Steve Trippe on Wednesday evening from 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm, which means it begins during the last "Quickshops" session of the day, and extends for about an hour after it ends. They are planning to have food - probably pizza - and other snacks for the participants.

During this session, Ed and Steve will facilitate a process with the participants that engages them in a dialogue about their perspective of connections within their communities. They will be asked to talk about where they feel connected (what places, people, etc.) and what are the barriers that inhibit their being more connected. Ideas shared in this session by the young people will inform the closing plenary session, although all the youth participants in this session will not be expected to participate in the closing plenary. In addition, the issues raised will also be shared with the State Youth Council.

We are hoping that a lot of young people will attend this session so that we can gather ideas to share statewide.

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### **Supporting Youth Before, During and After the Conference**

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#### **Before:**

- We recommend that you meet with the young people prior to the conference and give them a little overview of what to expect.
- Help build their awareness this is a conference for adults and youth, and there will be fun activities for everyone - but that it is not a conference designed exclusively for youth, and to therefore expect a somewhat different kind of environment.
- Review the conference agenda, and have a conversation about your team's plan for the week.
- Encourage them to actively participate in all the conference sessions, and specifically, prepare them to listen to what is happening in other communities through workshops, and to think about what they can learn from them to bring back to their own communities.

#### **During:**

- Be sure to check in with your youth participants throughout the conference, ask them what they've learned and what their experience is like.
- Encourage them to participate in all activities, especially the Youth Perspective Session and if they want to, the closing plenary.

#### **After:**

- Debrief their full experience at the conference - what did they learn? What ideas have they come back with that they would like to see implemented in their community?
- You may want to ask your young people, or everyone from your team who attended the conference, to prepare and give some sort of a presentation to your Youth Council about some ideas they would like to see implemented.
- Support their follow-through with implementing any ideas they have.

#### *Local Youth Council Example*

- Orange County WIB and Youth Council have had several meetings with youth participants since October, and feels that the frequency of meetings has really helped the youth and adults get to know each other and is going to support a very rich learning environment and fun experience at the conference.
- OC WIB is also providing scholarships for youth participants who attend the conference and come back and give a presentation to the Youth Council about their experience.

Questions about this or other YCi events and activities, email Chandra at [clarsen@nww.org](mailto:clarsen@nww.org) or call (707) 824-4000. To review and download materials and notes from other workshops and content calls hosted by New Ways to Work, go to [www.nww.org/networkcontentcalls.html](http://www.nww.org/networkcontentcalls.html).